

# CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~(100)~~ arranged around a central axis ~~(150)~~ for treating urinary incontinence, comprising:
  - a node ~~(108)~~ located on the central axis ~~(150)~~;
  - a support section ~~(110)~~ adapted for providing urethral support attached to said node;
  - and,
  - an anchoring section ~~(106)~~ adapted for resisting movement of said apparatus attached to said node;wherein said node is no longer than 30% of the entire length of said apparatus comprising said node ~~(108)~~, support section ~~(110)~~ and said anchoring section ~~(106)~~ together.
2. (Currently amended) An apparatus of claim 1 wherein said node ~~(108)~~ is no longer than 20% of the entire length of said apparatus for treating urinary incontinence.
3. (Currently amended) An apparatus of claim 2 wherein said node ~~(108)~~ is no longer than 15% of the entire length of said apparatus for treating urinary incontinence.
4. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-3~~ claim 1 wherein said support section ~~(110)~~ is provided with at least 2 supporting arms ~~(114)~~.
5. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-3~~ claim 1 wherein said anchoring section ~~(106)~~ is provided with at least 2 anchoring arms ~~(112)~~.
6. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-5~~ claim 1 further comprising a cover ~~(900)~~.
7. (Currently amended) An apparatus of claim 6, wherein said cover ~~(900)~~ substantially encapsulates said node ~~(108)~~, support section ~~(110)~~ and said anchoring section ~~(106)~~.
8. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-7~~ claim 1 wherein at least said support section ~~(110)~~ and said anchoring section ~~(106)~~ are flexible.

9. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-7~~ claim 1 wherein at least said node ~~(108)~~ is flexible.
10. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-9~~ claim 1 further comprising a device displacer ~~(902)~~.
11. (Currently amended) An apparatus of claim 10 wherein said device displacer ~~(902)~~ is attached to said support section ~~(110)~~.
12. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 4-11~~ claim 4 further comprising support struts ~~(320)~~ interlinking said supporting arms ~~(114)~~.
13. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-12~~ claim 1 further comprising an applicator ~~(1000)~~ adapted to insert said apparatus into a vagina.
14. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-13~~ claim 1, wherein the apparatus ~~(100)~~ is symmetrically arranged around the central axis ~~(150)~~.
15. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 1-14~~ claim 1, wherein the length of the apparatus ~~(100)~~ is 50mm or less.
16. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~(400)~~ for treating urinary incontinence, comprising:  
a support section ~~(410)~~ adapted for providing urethral support using a plurality of outwardly extending arms ~~(414)~~; and  
an extending insert ~~(800)~~ adapted to increase the diameter of said support section ~~(410)~~ by outwardly urging the arms ~~(414)~~.
17. (Currently amended) An apparatus of claim 16 further comprising a node ~~(408)~~ and an anchoring section ~~(406)~~ adapted for resisting movement of said apparatus.
18. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~either of claims 16 or 17~~ further comprising a cover ~~(900)~~.

19. (Currently amended) An apparatus of claim ~~18~~18 wherein said cover ~~(900)~~ substantially encapsulates said ~~node (408)~~, support section ~~(410)~~, said ~~anchoring section (406)~~ and said extending insert ~~(800)~~.
20. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 16-19~~ claim 16 further comprising a device displacer ~~(902)~~.
21. (Currently amended) An apparatus of claim 20 wherein said device displacer ~~(902)~~ is attached to said support section ~~(410)~~.
22. (Currently amended) An apparatus of ~~any of claims 16-21~~ claim 16 further comprising an applicator ~~(1000)~~ adapted to insert said apparatus into a vagina.
23. (Currently amended) An apparatus for treating urinary incontinence, comprising:  
a body ~~(400)~~ provided with a plurality of arms ~~(414)~~ adapted for rendering urethral support for treating incontinence when inserted in a vagina;  
an arm collapser ~~(900)~~; and,  
a device displacer ~~(902)~~ coupled to the arm collapser ~~(900)~~ which when pulled causes:  
a) the arms ~~(414)~~ to collapse; and b) the apparatus to displace.
24. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 23 wherein said device displacer ~~(902)~~ is a string.
25. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 24 wherein said apparatus is flexible and distorted by said string.
26. (Currently amended) A method of using an apparatus for the treatment of urinary incontinence, comprising:  
inserting said incontinence treating apparatus ~~(100)~~; and,  
deploying said incontinence treating apparatus ~~(100)~~ in a position to render mid-urethral support.
27. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 26 wherein inserting is facilitated by an applicator ~~(1000)~~.

28. (Currently amended) A method according to claims 26 ~~or 27~~ further comprising removing said apparatus.

29. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 26-28~~ claim 28 wherein said removing is facilitated by a device displacer ~~(902)~~.

30. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~(1050)~~ for inserting an expanding and anchoring vaginal device having a preferred deployment location, comprising:

an enclosure for containing said vaginal device; and

a stopper ~~(1058)~~, wherein said stopper ~~(1058)~~ prevents over insertion and wherein said stopper ~~(1058)~~ is adjustably positioned on an exterior of said enclosure.

31. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 30 further comprising a plurality of selectable positions located on said apparatus such that, upon adjustably positioning said stopper ~~(1058)~~ in one of said positions, insertion of said apparatus into said vagina up to said stopper ~~(1058)~~ will result in the apparatus being in an appropriate position within said vagina for deployment.